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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-fourth session
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Agenda item 8

DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE FIRST PART OF ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Resi Gunarto Prasodjo (Indonesia)

Addendum

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1992-1993

1. At its 9th meeting, on 19 May 1994, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1992-1993 (A/49/135).

Conclusions and recommendations

2. The Committee commended the quality and candidness of the report and expressed appreciation for its improved format and structure. It noted that the report covered a wide spectrum of activities that had not been covered by earlier programme performance reports and included new quantitative analyses of programme implementation during the biennium.

3. The Committee stressed the need for a closer link between programme performance and budget performance reports in order to provide Member States with a clearer picture regarding the implementation of the activities of the Organization.

4. The Committee noted with regret the decrease in the overall rate of programme implementation during the biennium 1992-1993. It also noted the

negative impact that the restructuring of the Secretariat and the need to address new mandates, including the preparation of important conferences in 1994-1995, as well as other factors had had on the implementation of the 1992-1993 programme of work, particularly in the economic sector. It expressed concern over the low implementation rates for development programmes under programme budget sections 15, 17, 19 and 45 (UNCTAD, United Nations Environment Programme, Human settlements and the Department for Development Support and Management Services respectively.

5. The Committee noted that the high rate of implementation of high-priority subprogrammes under budget section 28, Human rights and section 40, Humanitarian affairs, was a reflection of the quantified activities only and did not constitute a sufficient indicator of the overall performance of those two sections. It expressed the view that implementation rates did not reflect on the quality of the outputs and services provided. It agreed that the budget sections with a rate of implementation below 70 per cent should be subject to further study for the purpose of enhancing programme management and delivery.

6. The Committee recalled General Assembly resolution 48/218, which, inter alia, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on the establishment of a transparent and effective system of accountability and responsibility no later than 1 January 1995. It laid emphasis on the distinct roles of the central oversight and control mechanisms on the one hand and, on the other, the accountability and responsibility of programme managers for, inter alia, programme delivery and the effective management of the personnel and financial resources allocated to them. In that regard, the Committee emphasized the need for the timely submission of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the system of accountability and responsibility of programme managers in the United Nations to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session through CPC at the second part of its thirty-fourth session.

7. The Committee noted that the report indicated in paragraph 37 that 173 outputs carried over from the 1990-1991 biennium or earlier were further postponed to the 1994-1995 biennium. It agreed to recommend to the General Assembly that it consider that issue in the context of its consideration of the programme performance report at its forty-ninth session.